



# THE MALTESE PRESENCE IN NORTH AMERICA



**E-NEWSLETTER**

Issue 49

JUNE 2023



**THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA PAYS A VISIT TO THE  
MALTESE-CANADIAN MUSEUM ARCHIVES AND VISITORS CENTRE IN TORONTO**

**Madlene Cumbo, Rose Cassar, Carmen Galea, Christine Mifsud, Debbie Lightfoot,  
Marthese Fenech, Mrs. Miriam Vella, President George Vella,  
Curator Richard Cumbo,  
Minister Byron Camilleri, High Commissioner Designate Godfrey C. Xuereb,  
Consul General of Malta for Toronto Denise Demicoli and Mani Mifsud**

**The Maltese Presence  
in North America  
Issue No. 49 June 2023**

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**EDITORIAL COMMENT**

Most of this issue is devoted to the visit of the President of Malta, H.E. Dr. George Vella's, his wife's and his delegation's visit to the United States and Canada.

An attempt has been made to document much of the events during this visit with photos. In doing so, an effort has also been made to make each event as distinct and as representative of the individuals in attendance as possible, based on the textual and photographic information on hand.

I'm especially delighted with the accounts of Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, Lisa Buttigieg-LiGreci, and myself in that each is a personal participatory view of that particular event. Each of these accounts and others also demonstrate how "down to earth" and "warm" the President and First Lady indeed are.

A special thanks goes out to Mary Rose Aquilina who, inspite of her activities as co-producer of *Leĥen Malti*, as well as other commitments, has found the time to submit another recipe for this issue. (See pages 5-6.)

The account of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bracken family in Canada is based on an article written for the September-October 2018 issue of The Maltese Canadian Club in London's newsletter. My thanks goes to Vivien (Bracken) Ellul who originally supplied the information and photos.

Again, thanks to the kindness and efforts of Evelyn and Dennis Simmons of California, all issues and the latest "Table of Contents" are posted on the web page of the Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco at <http://maltese-americanscsf.org/home.aspx>. Click on to "News & Resources."

An example of my debt to the Simmonses occurred recently when a request was received from Dr. Stephen Borg of the National Bibliographic Office of Malta to send him e-copies of all the back and subsequent issues of this newsletter, as this office, established in 2015, is "harvesting e-publications by the Maltese diaspora."

A great deal of time on my part was saved by simply referring Dr. Borg to the Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco's website where the back issues of this e-newsletter were successfully uploaded at the National Bibliographic Office.

If you have ideas to share or wish to be put on the free, bcc electronic mailing lists, etc., I may be reach at [danbrock62@gmail.ca](mailto:danbrock62@gmail.ca).

The various Maltese organizations and associations in North America are encouraged to use this e-newsletter to promote themselves and their activities.

I would like to wish all fathers a Happy Father's Day!

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## ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH, TORONTO, CANADA

### From the Desk of Fr. Roy...

*Fr. Roy Farrell, a diocesan priest within the Archdiocese of Toronto, is administrator of St. Paul the Apostle, Toronto, the only Maltese parish outside Malta worldwide*

#### Parish Bulletin for May 21<sup>th</sup>

....The Ascension of Jesus Christ holds significance for multiple reasons, among which is the fact it concluded his earthly ministry. Almighty God had mercifully sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem, and now the Son was journeying back to the Father. Humanity had reached the point where restrictions were no longer present. It signified the success of His earthly work. All that He had hoped to accomplish had been achieved. It signaled the reappearance of His celestial glory.

#### Parish Bulletin for May 28<sup>th</sup>

At Pentecost Sunday 2,000 years ago, the Holy Spirit was given to 120 believers who had gathered to receive the promised gift!

St. John explains, "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot receive Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you do know Him, for He abides with you and will be in you."

Most recognize this day as the Birthday of the Church as the Word of God was powerfully preached by Peter. Following this message, the Bible tells us that over 3,000 were added to the Church in one day!

Peter was transformed after the Resurrection, and then after being filled with the Spirit on Pentecost.

Pentecost isn't just about remembering a "historical event" every year. Every believer can tap into the Holy Spirit's power by asking God for it, and live a victorious life.

The enemy tried to scare and get rid of the Church from the start, but the persecution just caused it to grow even more.

Pentecost marks the end of the Easter Season with the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the infant Church. Although the work of the Holy Spirit had been evident before then, Pentecost marked his coming in a new and powerful way. The apostles changed from a timid group to a strong and enthusiastic group ready to share Jesus with everyone.

The Church is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, who directs and strengthens the Church. He comes to everyone who's been baptized, not just the ordained. We have different parts to play and unique talents, but it's all from the same Spirit. This is not done to benefit us, but to strengthen the Church.

On the day of Pentecost, let us request guidance on how to use our abilities and gifts, and then to courage us to meet our commitments.

#### Parish Bulletin for June 4<sup>th</sup>

....Despite the mystery of the Trinity, we can still communicate certain ideas about it.

When we cross ourselves, we do it partly for protection. We do it also as an act of faith. We do it to express who God is to us. The Church professes that the nature of God is triune—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—who are all equal and distinct.

How do we know about the Trinity? The only way we could know about the Trinity was that it was revealed to us by Jesus, who claimed to be the Son of God. We accept it because it was revealed through Sacred Scripture.

Some might argue that the doctrine of the Trinity was not defined until the fourth century. That is true, but the Church had been teaching this doctrine long before it was officially defined.

When you get baptized, the Trinity lives in your soul.

When we truly believe God lives in us, we can change our lives, even with our problems.

What else can we say about the Trinity? The Trinity is about a community of life, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...and that we all exist in relationship to others. Just think about the best experiences of your life. I think we all would agree that they were experiences you had with a spouse, a friend, a parent, or someone else who had a special place in your life. Conversely, the worst times in our lives have probably been the ones when we felt alone, abandoned. We need to be in relationship with others because we are made in the image and likeness of God that is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Every time we strive to reach out for companionship gives indirect testimony to the Trinity.

It is important to remember that, when things get hard or we feel like we cannot handle any more, God is present as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. When we are connected to God, we are also connected to one another.

**ACTIVITIES WITHIN  
THE MALTESE COMMUNITIES**

**Dan Brock**

**GOZO**

**Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)**

The Association will be celebrating **Canada Day** on Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> with a **flag-raising ceremony** in the morning and a **dinner** in the evening.

**Maltese Canadian Gozo**  
Canada Day Celebrations in Gozo  
Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2023

At 9:00 in the morning we will raise the Canadian, European and Maltese flags and lay flowers  
At the Emigrants' Memorial, Mgarr, Gozo

**Evening Celebration At The "Country Terrace"**  
**7:00pm**

Fantastic company and dining in a breath taking view  
Come and bring your friends to celebrate  
Canada's 156<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**Dress Code: Smart Casual**  
Adults: €30 Children under 12yrs: €15  
For tickets and more information please call or SMS  
Connie Grima: 7956 4269; Gina Hilli: 7995 6376  
Alfred Camilleri: 9924 6043 or Email: [Info@mcagozo.com](mailto:Info@mcagozo.com)

**Menu** *Antipasto (Plated)*  
Napoli, Vetriciana, Red Lester, Rocket salad, Grilled aubergine, pickled onions, Fresh Cheese, Basil, Cherry Vine Tomato, Grilled aubergine & grilled zucchini  
*Pasta (by order)*  
Penne Al Napolitana Finished in tomato Concesse & a Basil emulsion  
Tortellini al Ricotta & Spinach  
Flamed with cognac, sauvignon blanc, mushrooms and ham finished in a creamy parmesan cheese  
Fusilli Al salmone  
Flamed with Richard, sauvignon blanc, a house smoked salmon sauce  
*Main course (By order)*  
*Chicken*  
Pan roasted, garlic & herb, barbeque glaze  
Fresh salmon (Norwegian)  
Pan roasted, prawn bisque, herb & garlic, finished with creamy lemon sauce  
Pork Tomahawk  
Grilled pork served with aniseed & orange sauce  
Beef 'Tagliata' (Please note not more than medium cooked)  
Grilled UMI AAA Black Angus flank steak served with shavings of Parmigiano & rucola  
*Dessert*  
Choc Cake with Canadian Flag  
Half a bottle of wine and water per person Or a pint of beer

Alternative plans are also in the works to hold a **barbeque**, around 5:00 p.m. on Canada Day, on Xwejni Beach near Marsalforn. Kids and pets would be welcomed. Canadian flags would be in evidence along with real Canadian beer, burgers, ribs, pork chops, T-bone steaks, and chicken wings, while listening to the music of Blue Rodeo, Diana Krall, Leonard Cohen, and Justin Bieber.

**MICHIGAN**

**Maltese American Benevolent Society, Inc**

A luncheon was held at noon on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, for the **President of Malta**, his **wife** and his **delegation** and **guests**. (See pages 7-8 and 32.)

**Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn**

The Club, together with **H.E. Dr. Godfrey Xuereb** and **Honorary Consul Paul Borg**, hosted a **dinner reception** for the **President of Malta** on the evening of Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. (See pages 9-12)

**NEW YORK CITY**

**Maltese Center: Astoria**

The annual **Majjalata & Memorial Day BBQ** was celebrated at the Center on the evening of Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

An **open house – meet and greet** of the **President of Malta**, his wife, and his delegation was held at the Center on the evening of Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> (See pages 13-14.)

**L-Imnarja and il-Festa ta' San Ġwann** will be celebrated at the Centre on the evening of Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ONTARIO**

**Greater Toronto Area**

**Leĥen Malti**

**Joe Scerri**, the chairman of *Leĥen Malti*, conducted an **interview** at the Consul General's office in Toronto with **H.E. Dr. George Vella**, while he was in Canada. This interview was first aired on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**LEHEN MALTI**  
**(Maltese Voice)**

**OMNI 1 - Ontario**  
Saturdays 8:30 a.m.  
Tuesdays 11:30 a.m.  
Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

**OMNI BC**  
Saturdays 2:00 p.m.

**OMNI Alberta**  
Saturdays 2:00 p.m.

**Malta Band Club**

A dinner honouring the **President of Malta's visit to Canada** was held at the Club on the evening of Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. (See pages 24-25.)

The **season opener** of the **Malta Band Club Car Show** was held on the afternoon of Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

The **San Ġorg dinner and dance** was held on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Maltese Canadian Business Network Association (MCBNA)

Its members had an opportunity to meet with the President of Malta when he was in Toronto in late May. (See page 16.)

### Maltese Canadian Federation

The Federation, in association with the Maltese Canadian Business Network Association, will hold **Malta Fest** at **Runnymede Park** in Toronto between 2:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Melita Soccer Club, Inc.

A **Ladies' Luncheon** in honour of **Mrs. Miriam Vella**, the First Lady of Malta, was held at the Club, at noon, on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. (See pages 18-19.)

### St. Paul the Apostle Parish

**Deacon Raymond Frendo** was appointed, by Archbishop Francis Leo of Toronto to serve the Parish effective May 1<sup>st</sup>. Deacon Raymond had served as a lay pastoral minister in the Parish more than 25 years earlier.

After the flag-raising ceremony in Malta Park, the **President of Malta**, his **wife**, and his delegation attended the 10:30 Maltese Mass at the Church on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. **Fr. Massimo Buttigieg** was the celebrant. After Mass, there was a **tour** of the **Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre** and a **reception** in the **Parish Hall**. (See pages 1, 26-28.)

### Hamilton

#### Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton

The Association participated in hosting the visit of the **President of Malta**, his **wife**, and his **delegation** to **Liuna Station** on the afternoon of Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. (See pages 21-23 and 32)

The Association is holding a **Summer Picnic** in **Burlington** at **LaSalle Park**, Area #2 (beside the baseball diamond), between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., on **Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**. Members and non-members are welcomed.

There will be *ħobż biż-żejt* and cold drinks for sale, as well as 50/50 tickets, T-shirts, and pins. The children will be able to enjoy the splash pad which opens at 12:30 p.m.

### London

The **luncheon** scheduled for Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> was **cancelled** owing to the **Funeral Mass** for **Larry Paquet**, a longtime member of the Maltese Community in the London area, and the celebration of his life thereafter on that same day.

The **luncheon** for the informal association of members of the Maltese community and friends was rescheduled and held at **The Pickle Barrel** on Thursday, **June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Further comments on this will appear in the July issue of this e-newsletter.

### Windsor

#### Malta United Society of Windsor, Ontario

A **traditional Maltese rabbit spaghetti dinner** took place at the Club, between 6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.



### KUSKSU

#### Mary Rose Aquilina

*Kusksu* is a traditional Maltese soup made primarily from seasonal broad beans, small pasta beads, and fresh *ġbejniet*. Not to be mistaken for couscous, *kusksu*, which gives the soup its name, "miniature pasta", is thick and ideal for simmering. Once cooked, the short-cut pasta beads give the soup its distinctive creamy and warm texture, making it an ideal dish to serve during cold weather.

Given its close resemblance to couscous, it is likely that *kusksu* originated during Malta's Arab occupation. We can find reference to peppercorn-like pasta as far back as the 18th century, which suggests that *kusksu* was a staple in the Maltese diet.

### The main ingredients used for kusksu:

One of the key ingredients used, besides the pasta, is the broad bean (*ful*). Broad beans are well-adapted to the Maltese climate and can become invasive if left uncontrolled. In Malta, broad beans are typically sown in December and harvested during early spring. In 2016, Malta's National Statistics Office reported that 595 tonnes of broad beans were sold through official markets, a quantity that is why some locals refer to the broad bean as Malta's "favourite" bean, particularly fresh as a snack with bread and cheese (like a dried *ġbejna*).

The small pasta beads, known as *kusksu*, are another key ingredient. Apart from giving the soup its name, the pasta gives a fabulous texture to the soup. Kusksu is widely available in Malta. This key ingredient, however, may be hard to find. One can substitute with Italian *acini di pepe* but it won't necessarily achieve the same thickness in the soup.

Other ingredients that are typically found in kusksu include the fresh Maltese *ġbejna*, usually added just before serving; generous amounts of onions and garlic fried in olive oil or butter; bay leaves; tomato paste; eggs, which are typically poached in the soup itself rather than boiled separately.

### Variations

One can vary the ingredients for this. In my opinion, the best flavour and texture is achieved in its simple form with the *kusksu* being the star of the dish. Some may include fish, bacon, cabbage, and pumpkin to their *kusksu* recipe. This has to be one of the simplest and yet truly a "stick to the ribs" kind of meal.

The ease of making this dish, for me, makes it one of my go-to recipes, even off season when fresh *ful* is not available. One can easily find the green fava beans in cans these days, but I personally like to remove the skin on these and rinse well before adding to the soup. This helps minimize the briny taste of the liquid in which they are preserved when canned.

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup kusksu pasta (found as *acini di pepe*)
- 1 medium onion, coarsely chopped
- Olive oil for sauteing onions
- 1 cup fresh fava beans (peeled) or 1 cup frozen fava beans
- ½ cup fresh or frozen peas (optional)

- 3-4 tbsp tomato paste
- 4-5 cups water
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Grated cheese for serving (optional)

### METHOD

- In a medium-sized pot, drizzle some olive oil and sauté the onion until translucent but not browned.
- Add 2 tbsp tomato paste and sauté with the onions for a minute or two.
- Add 4 cups of water and bring the water and pasta mix to a boil. Add another tbsp of tomato paste if needed to your taste. Lower heat and cook for about 10 minutes.
- Add up to 1-1½ cups of water if the consistency of the soup is too thick for your liking and perhaps another tbsp of tomato paste, if desired.
- Add the fava beans and peas and simmer until the pasta is just cooked and slightly al dente. It will continue to cook with the heat of the broth.
- Add a bit more salt and pepper if desired.
- Taste the pasta to check if its cooked al dente. If needing a bit more time turn off heat and allow to cook with the residual heat of the soup.
- It is now ready to serve.



**LUNCH WITH THE PRESIDENT  
AND FIRST LADY OF MALTA**

**Rosemarie Aquilina**

I'm very honored that I was invited to have dinner at the Dearborn Maltese Club and lunch at the Detroit Maltese Club with the President and First Lady of Malta on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. I know my grandparents are dancing in heaven with pride. President George Vella has a heart for the Maltese people that crosses borders and generations with wisdom that brings greatness and needed change. I was privileged to be escorted by my brother, Dr. Joseph Aquilina, and joined by esteemed Michigan Maltese, including State Senator Darrin Camilleri and Justice Brian K. Zahra.

As Lisa Buttigieg-LiGreci is covering the dinner at the Dearborn Club, I have been asked to focus on the lunch at the Detroit Club.



**Me with the First Lady, Miriam Vella,  
and my brother Joe**



**My brother Joe and I  
with the President of Malta, Dr. George Vella**



**Already dear friends**



**With the Ambassador of Malta to the United States, H.E. Dr. Godfrey Xuereb**



**Chatting with the President before a group photo is taken in front of the Maltese American Benevolent Society in Detroit**

*\* Rosemarie Aquilina is judge of the 30<sup>th</sup> circuit court in Ingham County, Michigan, and author of three novels and an autobiography.*



**A VISIT TO THE HENRY FORD MUSEUM OF AMERICAN INNOVATION**



**With Judge Brian Zahra State Senator Darrin Camilleri can be seen in the left background**



**Dr. Godfrey Xuereb, Mrs. Vella, Dr. George Vella, and Minister Byron Camilleri**

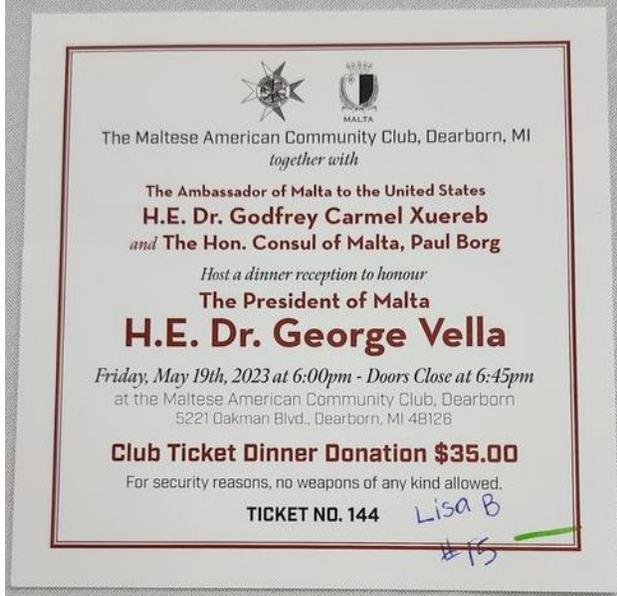
**HOBNOBBING WITH WORLD LEADERS**

**Lisa Buttigieg-LiGreci**

*Editor's note: The following is Lisa Buttigieg-LiGreci's personal account of the dinner reception held on the evening of Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at The Maltese American Community Club in Dearborn, to honour the President of Malta, Dr. George Vella.*



I also met the Maltese Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Dr. Godfrey Carmel Xuereb, and his wife, Kay.



My friend, Rena Xuereb, with the Maltese Ambassador and his wife.

A very special night tonight. I attended a dinner reception to honor the President of Malta.



I spotted my good buddy, State Senator Darrin Camilleri. We will resume the Maltese American Heritage Day at the State Capital this year.



This is Darrin and Wayne County Commissioner, Melissa Daub, presenting a tribute from the State of Michigan to the President. I learned that Melissa is also part Maltese and lives near me.



I got to meet him as well and was so impressed that he looked me straight in the eyes while speaking with me.



Here is the President with my friends Tom Muscat and his daughter Margaret.



Malta's First Lady, Miriam Vella, with security agents.

One of the floral decorations on the head table.



**The head table with all the dignitaries.**

**L-R Shawn Borg, sitting in for his father, Paul Borg, Consul to Malta;  
H.E. Dr. Godfrey Carmel Xuereb, the Maltese Ambassador to the United States;  
Rosemarie Aquilina, Ingham County District Court Judge;  
Brian Vella, President of the Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn;  
H.E. Dr. George Vella, President of Malta; Miriam Vella, First Lady of Malta; a secret service guy;  
Darrin Camilleri, Michigan State Senator; and Kay Xuereb, wife of Ambassador Xuereb.  
Absent from the head table is Jim Vella, former President of Ford Motor Company Fund and  
Community Services, who was speaking**



**The President's address**



**MALTESE STUDENT  
AT DETROIT UNIVERSITY\***

**Times of Malta**

Twenty-eighth-year-old Victor Zampa, who migrated with his parents to the United States in 1947, will shortly graduate in Architecture from Detroit University.

Soon after he set foot in America, young Victor started his studies at St. Theresa High School, where he stayed for one year. Among the subjects he studied were Chemistry and American History which he needed before entering the University; he also took Algebra, Religion and Physics as a refresher course.



**FIVE-YEAR-COURSE**

Graduating from St. Theresa's in 1948, Zampa was admitted to Detroit University. Founded in 1887 and run by the Jesuit Fathers, the University has a widely known Engineering College and a high reputation for the teaching of Law and Dentistry.

Here Zampa started a five-year course in Architectural Engineering and is now looking forward to getting his Bachelor of Architectural Engineering Degree early next year. To gain practical experience, a suitable job for each student is found by the Alma Mater and for some time now Victor has been specializing in home design for a house-heating company.

**FUTURE PLANS**

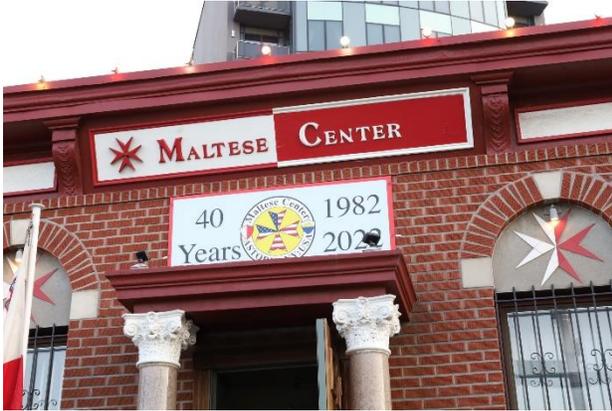
Victor's future plans were put quite clearly when he wrote to his relatives in Malta.

"My aim is to gain as much experience in my profession as I can until I take my State Board Examinations and become a registered architect. I may also have to put in a short spell in the Service after I graduate." And all those who know Victor will wish him every luck in his profession.

\*This article appeared in the *Times of Malta*, Nov. 23, 1952, page 4. I would encourage you to also read the background on the Zampa family as found in Joseph M. Lubig's *Maltese in MICHIGAN* (2011), pages 11-15, 25-27 and 55-58.

### OPEN HOUSE – MEET AND GREET

Maltese Centre, NYC





**VISIT TO 9/11 MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM**

**Maltese Centre, NYC**

On Monday, May 22nd, we welcomed Dr. George Vella, President of the Republic of Malta, and First Lady Miriam Vella, for a special visit to the [#911Memorial](#) & [#911Museum](#).

During their visit, the couple stopped at the Survivor Tree for a ceremonial wreath laying, where they paid tribute to all those killed on 9/11 [September 11, 2001].



**Bus Trip to New York City**

In April 2017, members of the Maltese community from the Greater Toronto Area and beyond visited the reflecting pool of the National September 11 Memorial at Ground Zero.

**FRIDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

**THE PRESIDENT AT THE UN**

**Sundry Sources**

**H.E. Dr. George Vella  
President of the Republic of Malta**

While at the United Nations, the President of Malta was a speaker and engaged in several bilateral meetings.

He addressed an Open Debate on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts, organized by the Swiss Presidency of the United Nations Security Council.

Dalghodu kelli laqgħa interattiva ma' għaqdiet Maltin Kanadiżi minn oqsma differenti - sportivi, tat-tradizzjonijiet, reliġjużi, kummerċjali u anki missjunarji. Waqt il-laqgħa rrimarkajt li d-daqs tagħna qatt ma kien problema biex niġu rispettati madwar id-dinja. Hadt gost nara kif l-ewwel ġenerazzjoni qiegħda trawwem lill-membri iżgħar tal-komunità u segwejt b'interess il-pjanijiet tagħhom biex ikomplu bil-hidma permezz ta' proġetti biex jilħqu n-nies fl-oqsma tal-kultura, l-inkluzjoni u d-diversità.

This morning, I held an interactive meeting with Maltese Canadian associations from different fields - sports, traditions, religious, business, and even missionary. During the meeting, I remarked that our size was never a problem for us to be respected worldwide. I'm glad to see how the first generation is passing on the baton to younger community members and followed with interest their plans to continue with their work through outreach projects on culture, inclusion, and diversity.



**Seated behind Dr. George Vella are Ambassador Vanessa Frazier and Minister Bryon Camilleri**

A bilateral meeting was held with Miguel Ángel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and His Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC).





**A MEETING WITH THE MALTESE CANADIAN BUSINESS NETWORK ASSOCIATION**

**Dan Brock**

While in Toronto, the President also held a meeting with the Maltese Canadian Business Network Association (MCBNA). This association focuses on diversity and inclusion, business and professional development, youth empowerment, and culture. The ties between Malta and Canada were discussed from different angles, ranging from ideas on how to initiate and strengthen economic and business relations to education opportunities in Malta and cultural tourism exchanges.



**MEETING WITH THE CONSUL GENERAL, HONORARY CONSULS,  
AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL FOR MALTESE LIVING ABROAD\***

**Dan Brock**

While in Toronto, the President of Malta, accompanied by the Minister for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality, Byron Camilleri and the High Commissioner Designate of Malta to Canada, Dr. Godfrey Xuereb, met with the Consul General for Malta in Toronto, Denise Demicoli, and the Honorary Consuls in Vancouver, Edmonton, and Montreal, namely Stephen Douglas Holmes, Victor Mario Tanti and Luc Bigras respectively.

Also present at this meeting were the Canadian representatives on the Council for Maltese Living Abroad (CMLA), Susan Schembri and Brandon Azzopardi. (See group photo on next page.) The reality of the Maltese communities in Canada, the challenges they are facing, and the initiatives they are taking to keep the community united and informed were among the topics discussed.

*\*This is largely based on a press release of the Government Services and Information of Malta.*



**A VISIT TO RUNNYMEDE HEALTHCARE CENTRE\***

**Dan Brock**

Also, while in Toronto, the President and Mrs. Vella visited the ongoing works on the long-term care facility at Runnymede Healthcare Centre, which is located in an area known as "Little Malta" and which has strong ties to the Maltese community in Toronto.

Some of these ties were noted on page 4 of the March 2021, pages 1,4, and 24-25 of the August 2021, and page 10 of the March 2022 issues.

The President and CEO of Runnymede Healthcare Centre, Connie Dejak, explained to Dr. George Vella that the current works will increase places for the Maltese elderly in need of long-term care.

While here, the President met and spoke with workers of Maltese descent and with the relatives of an elderly Maltese woman who has been receiving care here for several years.

*\*Again, this is largely based on a press release of the Government Services and Information of Malta.*



### LADIES' LUNCHEON WITH THE FIRST LADY AT THE MELITA SOCCER CLUB

#### Various Contributors

A Ladies' Luncheon in honour of Mrs. Miriam Vella, the First Lady of Malta, was held at the Melita Soccer Club, at noon, on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Ladies' luncheon with Guest of Honour Mrs Mary-Anne Vella First Lady**

26 MAY 2023

Venue: Melita Soccer Club  
\$25 per person  
Buffet with cash bar. Doors open at noon.  
Book by 22 May 2023 by calling  
Mary Ann Piscopo  
on 647 290 4856

More info available on Consulate General of Malta in Toronto Facebook #MaltainCanada





MELITA S.C. INC.  
TORONTO

MELITA SOCCER CLUB  
**LADIES' LUNCHEON**  
with guest of Honour  
**Mrs Mary-Anne Vella**  
First Lady of the Republic of Malta

**FRIDAY 26 MAY 2023 12:00PM**

BUFFET MENU: ASSORTED COLD CUTS, CHEESE, VEGETARIAN SALAD, BEAN SALAD, PASTA SALAD, MEATBALLS, QUICHE, FRUIT, NANAIMO BARS, BUTTER TARTS, CAKE, BUNS, ETC.

\$25 PER PERSON, CASH BAR

PLEASE CALL MARY ANN PISCOPO AT 647 290 4856,  
TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET BY NOT LATER THAN  
22 MAY 2023.



### A SURPRISE VISIT TO THE MALTA BAKE SHOP\*

**Charlie Paul Buttigieg**

We had a visit from the President George Vella and the First Lady Miriam Vella of Malta with Minister of Home Affairs, Hon. Byron Camilleri.

It was a surprise visit. They were supposed to come on Sunday after Mass. They called us 15 minutes before arriving. We got very nervous, but it ended up as a very nice and enjoyable visit.

The photos which follow, taken during the visit to Nannu's Pastizzi, are courtesy of the Consul General of Malta in Toronto.



\*This was immediately after visiting the Melita Soccer Club.



### OTHER VISITS IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA

**Dan Brock**

While in the Greater Toronto Area, the President of Malta, Mrs. Vella, and members of the presidential delegation paid visits to Malta's Finest Pastries on Dundas Street in Etobicoke and Nannu's Pastizzi on Millcreek Drive in Mississauga. H.E. Dr. George Vella commended them on keeping Malta's culinary traditions alive in the area.



## A MEMORABLE AFTERNOON AT LIUNA STATION, HAMILTON, ONTARIO

**Dan Brock**

Ted Gauci, Loretta (my wife), and I drove from London to Hamilton, on the afternoon of Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, to have the opportunity of meeting the President of Malta and his delegation.

One of the persons we met at Liuna Station, where the reception was being held, was Teresa (Parascandalo) Fenton. It turns out that as girls, she and Loretta, ages eight and seven respectively, had travelled together, with their mothers and siblings, first by the *Argentina*, from Malta to Naples, then by the *Vulcania* to New York, in June 1949, to join their fathers in Windsor and Brantford respectively. Their fathers had come out on the *Vulcania* the previous year.



**Teresa Fenton and Loretta Brock  
meet for the first time since 1949**

Later, we met Gemma (Camilleri), Allan. Gemma's family and Gemma herself are both unique in the history of Maltese immigration.

The Camilleri family, consisting of John Francis, his wife Miriam, and their four children – Silvio, Michael, Joseph, and Gemma – were the only intact family to disembark at Halifax, Nova Scotia from the *Vulcania* in June 1948. The rest of the over 300 immigrants on board that ship, seeking a new life in Canada, were married men, like Teresa Fenton's and Loretta Brock's fathers, who had temporarily left their wives and children back home, or men who were single.

Gemma, then being one year old, holds the distinction of being the youngest member of these post war Maltese pioneers to arrive in Canada in the late spring-early summer of 1948.



**Loretta (Scicluna) Brock  
and Gemma (Camilleri) Allan**

Earlier, I met Joe Brincat, the current president of the Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton (MCACH), which was hosting this event, and then Jason Allan, a past president. Jason, by the way, is a son of Gemma Allan. I also got to meet Victor Micallef, the first president of this association. Of course, I just had to get a photo of all three of these gentlemen. (See next page.)



**Jason Allan, Joe Brincat and Victor Micallef**

It was about 3:15 when the President of Malta and his delegation arrived, traffic having caused more than a half hour delay.



Courtesy of Consulate General of Malta in Toronto



Courtesy of Consulate General of Malta in Toronto

Later, Ted, Loretta and I were introduced to Dr. George Vella by our good acquaintance, Ms. Denise Demicoli, the Consul General of Malta to Toronto, and had the privilege of a more than five-minute chat with The President.

It turns out, one of Loretta's relatives, Fr. Alex Scerri, the prior of Mount Carmel Parish in Valletta, had celebrated Mass recently on the 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of the President and First Lady of Malta and joined them for breakfast.



**Ted Gauci, Loretta & Dan Brock with H.E. Dr. George Vella**

Later, Loretta introduced herself to Malta's First Lady, Miriam Vella, who was also most gracious.



**Loretta Brock chatting with the First Lady of Malta, Miriam Vella**

Loretta and I also got to chat with Dr. Godfrey Xuereb, the High Commissioner Designate to Canada, and his wife, Kay, whom we learned is a native of England.

It turns out that Teresa Fenton is a first cousin of Dr. Xuereb's father. Dr. Xuereb is also a grand-nephew of the late Len Connor of St. Thomas, Ontario. As he receives this newsletter, the High Commissioner thanked me for the write-up on Len Connor in the April-May issue and said he had forwarded the issue to his father.

The approximately 40 of us present had an opportunity to partake of the buffet luncheon provided before both Dr. Xuereb and President Vella spoke briefly to those present.



**Dr. Godfrey Xuereb and Ms. Denise Demicoli**

As Dr. Vella spoke of the Australia, Canada, and the United States being the “safety valve” for Malta's over-population and unemployment after the Second World War and the heart-wrenching separation of families, I was reminded of the late Fr. Lawrence E. Attard's book *The Safety Valve* which is a history of Maltese Emigration from 1946.

I was also reminded of my conversation with Fr. Attard in Sliema in 2012 in which he said that, as a boy, living in one of the Three Cities at the time, he could hear the cries and wailing of family members across the Grand Harbour as other family members boarded the ships docked at the Custom House.

Dr. Vella assured the members of the Maltese Diaspora that “you are part and parcel of Malta.”



**H.E. Dr. George Vella and Dr. Godfrey Xuereb**

After the speeches, a formal photo of the President was taken with his delegation and the current and past presidents of MCACH.

In my further discussion with Dr. Vella regarding the hardships many faced in Malta after the Second World War, he mentioned that there were those who were actually starving. The President related how, as a boy, growing up in Żejtun, people would come knocking on the door to the family residence, begging for a coin or two or some food.

A number of us were able to have posed photos taken with the President and the First Lady before they departed.



Needless to say, the afternoon of Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> was quite a memorable occasion for the three of us in so many ways and well worth the trip from London to Hamilton.

**DINNER AT THE MALTA BAND CLUB\***

**Dan Brock**

Following their visit to Hamilton, the President of Malta, his wife, and the others accompanying them, returned to the Greater Toronto Area for dinner, on the evening of Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Malta Band Club in Mississauga.



Courtesy of the Consulate General of Malta in Toronto



In addressing the gathering, the President of Malta spoke on the history of the Maltese Diaspora in Canada dating back to the 1820s with the arrival of Louis Shickluna.

He commended the Maltese community in Canada on their achievements and for still identifying themselves as Maltese and Gozitans and urged them to keep in mind that they, too, have a role to play in giving Malta's name the respect it deserves in their adoptive homeland and with other communities.

Traditions, he said, are important, as they foster national unity. Dr. Vella urged the Maltese community in Canada to keep their active contacts and reach out to one another as often as possible through cultural events, religious festivities, language classes, and culinary traditions.

During the evening, the Malta Band also played a few selections.



Courtesy of the Consulate General of Malta in Toronto





**The First Lady  
with the daughter and wife of Joe Scerri**



**Minister Byron Camilleri with Rita Sant,  
her daughter Jacqueline Sant  
and Rita's two sisters,  
Vivienne Buttigieg and Tina Buttigieg,  
at the Malta Band Club**

*Courtesy of Byron Camilleri*



**H.E. Dr. George Vella with Joe Scerri, his wife,  
their daughter and son-in-law**



*Courtesy of the Consulate General of Malta in Toronto*

*\*The data and photos have been gleaned from various sources.*

**PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO “LITTLE MALTA”**

**Dan Brock**

Sunday morning, May 28<sup>th</sup>, saw H.E. Dr. George Vella, his wife, and his delegation back in that part of Toronto known as both “The Junction” and “Little Malta.”

The first order of the day was the flag-raising ceremony, which started at 9:45 a.m., in Malta Park on the south side of Dundas Street West.



**Ms. Denise Demicoli, H.E. Godfrey Xuereb, Minister Bryon Camilleri, and President George Vella**

*Courtesy of Joan Carbonaro*



**MALTA’S MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS, SECURITY, REFORMS AND EQUALITY, BYRON CAMILLERI MEETS WITH THOSE GATHERED FOR THE FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY**



**Minister Bryon Camilleri, Mrs. Vella, Dr. George Vella, Joe Scerri, and Deacon Raymond Frendo**



*Photos courtesy of Byron Camilleri*

Following the ceremony in Malta Park, those gathered proceeded across the street to St. Paul the Apostle Church, the only Maltese national church worldwide outside Malta, for the 10:30 Mass celebrated in Maltese by Fr. Massimo Buttigieg, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Toronto. Fr. Massimo is from Victoria, Gozo and was ordained a priest in Gozo by Bishop (now Cardinal) Mario Grech in May 2016.



**THE MALTESE-CANADIAN MUSEUM  
ARCHIVES AND VISITORS CENTRE  
IMPRESSES THE PRESIDENT  
AND HIS ENTOURAGE**

**Richard S. Cumbo**

On Sunday, May 28th, after Mass at St. Paul the Apostle Church, President George Vella, his wife Miriam Vella, Minister Byron Camilleri, High Commissioner Designate Godfrey Xuereb, and Consul General Denise Demicoli were given a short tour of the Museum.

The President made a presentation to the Museum through me as its curator. Minister Camilleri also gifted an item made of Mdina glass.



**Fr. Massimo Buttigieg, the celebrant, shakes hands with the President of Malta and the First Lady after Mass**

Photos from the Twitter page of the President of Malta, May 28<sup>th</sup>



**Dr. George Vella making a presentation to the Museum through me**

A tour of the Camilleri Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre (see pages 1, 27-28) and a reception in the Parish Hall followed.



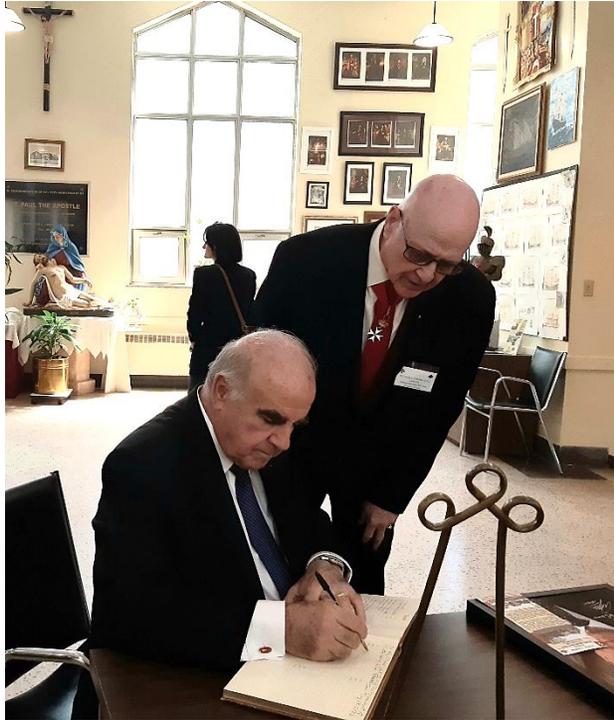
**Dr. George Vella, Mrs. Vella, Minister Byron Camilleri, Ms. Denise Demicoli**

*Courtesy of Byron Camilleri*



**Minister Byron Camilleri making a presentation to the Museum**

We had the honour of having the President and First Lady of Malta sign the Museum’s guest book.

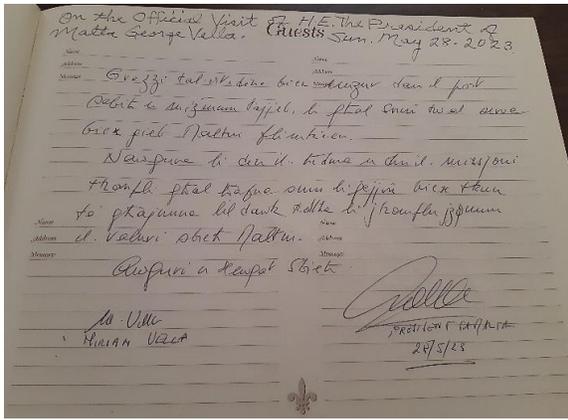


To say that the entourage was impressed with our museum and its contents would be an understatement. We should all feel very proud of this very positive result of our continuous work in the Museum.

A formal photo of the President, his entourage and the Museum volunteers was also taken before their departure.

Museum team member Rose Cassar took most of these great photos, thank you so **very much** Rose, great job.

Much of the success of the President and his entourage’s tour of the GTA and visit to Hamilton was owing to the hard work performed by our Consul General Ms. Denise Demicoli. She worked tirelessly to make sure that all went well.



An English translation of what Dr. Vella wrote in the guest book is as follows:

*"Thank you for inviting me to visit this beautiful and well-maintained place, which, for many years, served to bring the Maltese community together.  
"I hope that this work and this mission will continue for many years to come, to help all those who continue to uphold the Maltese beautiful values.  
"Good luck and good wishes."*

**The Museum volunteers with mementos of the President’s visit.**  
**Front row: Rose Cassar, Mani Mifsud, Marthese Fenech, Carmen Galea, and Debbie Lightfoot**  
**Back row: Mike Gouveia and Richard Cumbo**  
Courtesy of Frank Attard



**READERS’ COMMENTS**

Many thanks for a highly informative issue, once again.

Denise Demicoli,  
Consul General of Malta to Toronto

Well done, as always. I look forward to the next.  
Maria Pia Gauci, Malta

Great job Dan.  
Michael Cutajar, Michigan

## THE 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRACKEN FAMILY IN CANADA

Dan Brock

May 23<sup>rd</sup> of this year marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bracken family's arrival in Canada by way of Southampton, England to Quebec City on board the S.S. *Atlantic*.

The family consisted of Willie Bracken, his wife Rae, and their three children: Daniel, Fredric, and Vivien.



**Fredric, Daniel, Willie, Rae  
and Vivien Bracken on board the *Atlantic***

William "Willie" Bracken, the third son of Thomas and Velina Bracken, had married Rae Buckhalter, in 1934, and moved from Dublin, Ireland to London, England, where their children were born.

Thomas George Bracken, a native of Ireland, had been in the British army. While serving in Malta, he met Evelina "Velina" Sultana and they were married in May 1905 in Stella Maris Church, Sliema.



**Thomas George Bracken**

Thomas and Velina had two children while in Malta, Jimmy and Tommy, born in March 1907 and May 1909 respectively. They are believed to have been baptised at Stella Maris.

The family left Malta en route for Ireland in 1911. On the way they stopped off at Aldershot, England where their third son, Willie, was born that October. Before the end of the year, the Brackens had settled in Dublin, Ireland, where, in January 1916, their only daughter, Evelynne, was born.



**Velina (Sultana) Bracken  
with Jimmy, Evelynne, Tommy and Willie  
(seated)**

Photos courtesy of Vivien (Bracken) Ellul.

As for the family of Willie and Velina Bracken, they first settled in Toronto and, in 1960, moved several miles northwest to Brampton. It was there in St. John Fisher Church, that their youngest child, Vivien, married Ralph Ellul.

Now, it sometimes can happen that truth can be stranger than fiction.

Ralph's home parish back in Malta was *Tal-Karmnu* (Our Lady of Mount Carmel) on Tower Road in Balluta (Sliema). He often served as an altar boy, however, at the neighbouring Stella Maris Church in Sliema, the very church in which Vivien's paternal grandparents were married!

## MALTESE ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

### **Festa San Gejtanu Association**

c/o 5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga, ON  
L4Z 1R9  
647-232-8845

### **Festa San Gorg Association of Toronto**

c/o 36 Sequoia Road, Vaughan, ON L4H 1W6  
905-216-8432/416-277-2291

### **Gozo Club Toronto**

c/o 1205 Royal York Road, Toronto, ON M9A 4B5  
416-231-9710  
[gozoclub@gmail.com](mailto:gozoclub@gmail.com)

### **Inanna on Stage**

[www.joannedancer.com](http://www.joannedancer.com)  
c/o 356 Pacific Avenue, Toronto, ON M6P 2R1  
416-707-2355  
[desertdancer007@yahoo.ca](mailto:desertdancer007@yahoo.ca)

### **Knights of Columbus - Canada – Council # 12782**

c/o St Patrick's Church, 921 Flagship Drive,  
Mississauga, ON, N4Y 2J6  
905-270-2301 (Church)  
[stpatricksmi@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpatricksmi@archtoronto.org)  
Grand Knight Amadeo Cuschieri

### **Legion of Mary – “Our Lady of the Migrant”**

c/o St. Paul The Apostle Parish  
3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto M6P 2A3  
Tel: 416-767-7054  
[www.saint-paul-Maltese.com](http://www.saint-paul-Maltese.com)  
[stpaulmssp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulmssp@gmail.com)  
President: Mary Vella

### **Lehen Malti**

<https://www.omnity.ca › shows › lehen-malti>  
c/o 2387 Chilsworthy Avenue., Mississauga, ON  
L5B 2R4  
Contact Person: Joe Sherri  
416-571-3944  
email [lehenmalti@hotmail.com](mailto:lehenmalti@hotmail.com)

### **Malta Band Club**

5745 Coopers Ave., Mississauga, ON L4Z 1K9  
905-890-8507  
[www.maltabandclub.com](http://www.maltabandclub.com)  
[maltabandclub@bellnet.ca](mailto:maltabandclub@bellnet.ca)

### **Malta United Society of Windsor, Ontario**

2520 Seminole St., Windsor, ON N8Y1X4  
519-974-6719  
[maltaunitedsociety.windsor@gmail.com](mailto:maltaunitedsociety.windsor@gmail.com)  
Opening hours: Saturday 6:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

### **Malta Village Association (Est. 1995)**

c/o 3256 Dundas Street West, Toronto M6P 2A3  
Tel: 416-769-2174  
Fax: 416-769-2174  
[maltabakeshopltd@gmail.com](mailto:maltabakeshopltd@gmail.com)  
att: Antonia Buttigieg

### **Maltese American Benevolent Society**

1832 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48216  
313-961-8393  
<http://detroitmaltese.com>  
Opening hours:  
Friday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Sunday 12:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

### **Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn**

5221 Oakman Blvd, Dearborn, MI 48126  
313-846-7077  
[info@malteseamericanclub.org](mailto:info@malteseamericanclub.org)  
Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday & Saturday  
10:00 am. – 1:00 p.m.  
Dinners served: Friday evenings 6:00 p.m. – 10:00  
p.m.  
Before and after 7:00 p.m. first  
Friday Mass

### **Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco**

924 El Camino Real, South San Francisco, CA  
94080  
650-871-4611  
[contact-us@Maltese-AmericanSCSF.org](mailto:contact-us@Maltese-AmericanSCSF.org)  
Opening hours: Tuesday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
(every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month only)  
Thursday 5: p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Friday 5:00 – 1:00 a.m.  
Sunday 9:00 am.- 5:00 p.m.

### **Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton (MCACH)**

c/o 381 Fairview Drive, Brantford ON N3R 2X7  
[mcach1964@gmail.com](mailto:mcach1964@gmail.com)

**Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)**

c/o Trillium, Sqaq Nru 1, Triq it-Tigrija, ix-Xagħra  
Tel: 011 356 21560656  
[mcagozo@hotmail.com](mailto:mcagozo@hotmail.com)

**Maltese Canadian Business Network Association (MCBNA), (Toronto)**

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON  
L5B 2R4  
416-980-1975  
[mcbna2018@gmail.com](mailto:mcbna2018@gmail.com)

**Maltese-Canadian Cruisers**

c/o 5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga, ON  
L4Z 1R9  
416-524-2573  
att: Gianni Borg

**Maltese-Canadian Cultural Association (Est. 2018)**

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON  
L5B 2R4  
416-571-3944  
[joesherri@rogers.com](mailto:joesherri@rogers.com)

**Maltese Canadian Federation, The (Toronto)**

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON  
L5B 2R4  
416-571-3944  
[joesherri@rogers.com](mailto:joesherri@rogers.com)

**Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre**

St. Paul the Apostle Church Complex  
3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON M6P 2A3  
416-767-7054

**Maltese Canucks**

c/o 3336 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON,  
M6P 2A4  
416-909-7357/414-670-2662  
[carl@isqtransport.com/b\\_azzo18@yahoo.com](mailto:carl@isqtransport.com/b_azzo18@yahoo.com)

**Maltese Center, NYC**

27-20 Hoyt Ave. S. Astoria, NY 11102  
718-728-9893  
[info@themaltesecenter.com](mailto:info@themaltesecenter.com)

Opening hours:

Wednesday and Friday 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Maltese Cross Foundation of California**

[PO Box 698, San Carlos, CA 94070](#)

**Maltese Culture Club of Durham**

c/o 124 Ribblesdale Drive, Whitby, ON L1N 7C8  
289-939-8377  
[mmpastizzi@gmail.com](mailto:mmpastizzi@gmail.com)

**Maltese Heritage Association San Francisco Bay Area**

[maltesheritageassociation@gmail.com](mailto:maltesheritageassociation@gmail.com)

**Maltese Heritage Program (Toronto)**

c/o 59A Terry Drive, Toronto, ON, M6N 4Y8  
Coordinator: Carmen Galea  
416-766-5830  
[gormija@sympatico.ca](mailto:gormija@sympatico.ca)

**Maltese Historical Society (San Francisco)**

[c/o leprofess@aol.com](mailto:c/o leprofess@aol.com)

**Melita Soccer Club Inc.**

3336 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON M6P 2A4  
416-763-5317  
[msc@melitasoccerclub.com](mailto:msc@melitasoccerclub.com)

**St. Paul the Apostle Parish**

3224 Dundas St. W. Toronto, ON M6P 2A3  
416-767-7054  
[www.saint-paul-maltese.com](http://www.saint-paul-maltese.com)  
[stpaulmssp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulmssp@gmail.com)

**St. Paul the Apostle Parish Mission Group**

c/o 281 Gilmour Ave., Toronto, ON M6P 3B6  
416-708-8627  
[www.facebook.com/john.vella.1044186](http://www.facebook.com/john.vella.1044186)  
[giovanvel@sympatico.ca](mailto:giovanvel@sympatico.ca)

**St. Paul the Apostle Youth Group (Toronto)**

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M6P 2A3  
647-524-1115  
[jason.borg@hotmail.ca/sborg@rogers.com](mailto:jason.borg@hotmail.ca/sborg@rogers.com)

**St. Paul's Maltese Choir**

c/o St Paul the Apostle Parish  
3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto M6P 2A3  
416-767-7054  
[www.saint-paul-maltese.com](http://www.saint-paul-maltese.com)  
[stpaulmssp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulmssp@gmail.com)  
President: Lino Debono

**GROUP PHOTOS OF TWO OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISITS**



**The President of Malta's Visit to the Maltese American Benevolent Society, Inc., Detroit**  
Courtesy of Judge Rosemarie Aquilina



**H.E. George Vella's Visit to Liuna Station, Hamilton**  
Courtesy of Consulate General of Malta in Toronto